Amendments to Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said step of passing said combination from vessel to vessel comprises:

passing said combination from vessel to vessel a first predetermined number of passes such that a partially thickened dispersion is obtained;

allowing said partially thickened dispersion to stand for a first predetermined time interval;

passing said partially thickened dispersion from vessel to vessel a second predetermined number of passes sufficient to yield a further thickened dispersion;

allowing said further thickened dispersion to stand for a second predetermined time interval, such that a thick, extrudable dispersion is obtained.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said first predetermined number of passes is about 5-150.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said second predetermined number of passes is about 5-150.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said first time interval is about 30-60 minutes.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said second time interval is at least about 12-72 hours.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~10~~ 34 wherein the steps of making the implant include ~~further comprising~~ molding said extrudate.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~10~~ 34 wherein the steps of making the implant include ~~further comprising~~ drying said extrudate to provide a dehydrated osteogenic matrix.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim 12 wherein the steps of making the implant further include ~~further comprising~~ sterilizing said dehydrated osteogenic matrix.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim 13 wherein the steps of making the implant further include ~~further comprising~~ rehydrating said dehydrated osteogenic matrix.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim 14 wherein the steps of making the implant further include ~~further comprising~~ mixing a bulking material with said rehydrated matrix to provide ~~a~~ said shapeable osteogenic implant material.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim 15 wherein said bulking material is particulate demineralized bone matrix.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim 15 wherein the steps of making the implant further include ~~further comprising~~ shaping said osteogenic implant material.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said thickened dispersion comprises approximately 1-8% (wt./vol.) collagen.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said collagen ~~is~~ comprises dehydrated fibrous bovine tendon type I collagen.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said water containing dilute acid comprises about 10 mM HCl.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said osteoinductive substance is chosen from the group consisting of bone growth proteins, bone morphogenetic proteins 1-13, osteogenic protein-1 or 2, FGF-I or -II, TGF-beta, GDF-5,6 7.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ device of claim ~~1~~ 34 wherein said combination further includes a biologically active agent other than ~~an~~ said osteoinductive substance, said biologically active agent being ~~is~~ chosen from the group consisting of growth factors, cartilage inducing factors, angiogenic factors, hormones, antibiotics, antiviral compounds and anticancer compounds.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An implantable osteogenic spinal device ~~spinal cage produced by the method of claim 33~~, comprising

a spinal cage; and

an osteogenic implant material received within said cage, wherein said implant material is a paste that is capable of being molded to a desired shape and is made by:

combining purified collagen, an osteoinductive substance, and water containing dilute acid in a dispersing assembly comprising two vessels and a reduced diameter portion, said vessels being in mutual fluid communication by way of said reduced diameter portion;

forcing said combination from vessel to vessel through said reduced diameter portion a predetermined number of times sufficient to disperse said collagen and osteoinductive substance in said water, such that said collagen is at least partially hydrated and a dispersion is obtained;

allowing said dispersion to stand for a predetermined time interval to produce a thickened dispersion; and

extruding said dispersion to provide an extrudate that is capable of being molded to a desired shape.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of inducing osteogenesis in a subject in need thereof comprising implanting in said subject at a site where osteogenesis is desired a device according to claim ~~30~~ 34.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) A method of inducing osteogenesis in the disk space between two adjacent vertebral bodies in the spine of a patient, said method comprising implanting in said disk space an osteogenic spinal cage according to claim 34.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Canceled)

49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Canceled)

54. (Canceled)